

Installation Guide

Motorcycle and Dirt Bike Steering Stem Bearings Installation Guide

*As always, these instructions are a general guide to help you. Always check with your service manual for your machine to make sure that you have a clear understanding of the setup. If you are not experienced with installing parts on your machine, Boss Bearing always recommends taking your machine to a mechanic to ensure proper installation. You can buy the bearings through us, save a few bucks, and take them to your local mechanic to be installed!

Instructions:

*It is important to make sure you clean your machine to prevent any problems going forward with the installation.

*Please be sure to follow the instructions thoroughly! If the steps to replacing any parts on your motorcycle or ATV/UTV are done improperly, this can lead to parts failure or possible injury.

1. Remove triple clamps from the bike frame.
 - a. Remove the upper triple clamp.
 - b. Remove the spanner nut in order to drop the steering stem out of the frame.
2. Remove the old outer races from the frame.
 - a. A steering stem bearing removal tool is the recommended tool to remove the old outer races, but they can be removed by using a drift.
 - b. Tap around the inside edge with a drift until the races, upper and lower, come out.
3. Remove lower steering bearing from steering stem.
 - a. Remove the rollers from the bearing by destroying the cage. This will expose a lip on the bearing.
 - b. A drift can be used to tap the bearing off while the stem is in a vice. Make sure to hold the stem in the middle of the stem away from where the bearings rest when the stem is in a vice. A bearing puller can also be used.

4. Inspect the parts.
 - a. Clean all of the parts thoroughly to remove all old grease, rust and grime.
 - b. Check the frame head tube for burs.
 - c. Remove any burs. They will hang up the new races during the installation.
 - d. Inspect the steering stem for any damage that may interfere with the new bearing.
5. Install the lower steering bearing.
 - a. Remember to slide the steering seal onto the stem first.
 - b. Find a pipe that slides over the steering stem but only makes contact with the inner race of the bearing. The care of the bearing may distort which will cause binding in your steering if pressed on.
6. Install the new outer races.
 - a. A bearing installation tool works best when installing the outer races, but they may also be pressed in.

*If pressing the bearings in the key is start them straight. Never apply pressure to the tapered portions of the races; this could nick them causing the steering to bind.

- b. A tool can be made with a piece of threaded bar stock some nuts that fit and some washers that have a slightly smaller outside diameter than the races you are installing.
 - c. After the bearings are pulled in hit both ends of the threaded rod with a hammer to fully seal the bearings.
7. Inspect you work.
 - a. Make sure that the lower steering stem bearing, and the outer races are properly sealed.
 - b. Grease the bearings properly.
8. Reassemble the steering assembly.
 - a. Insert the steering stem back into the frame.
 - b. Place the upper bearing and seal onto the frame. Thread the spanner nut back onto the stem. Torque the spanner nut to the levels that are recommended by your service manual.

- c.** Check for binding in the steering by turning the assembly left and right.

9. Maintenance

- a.** After the new bearings have settled into place it may be necessary to re-torque the spanner nut.